

CLIMATE CRISIS AND GENDER EQUALITY IN THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN REGION

MedWE Dialogue

February 12, 2025

15:00h - 17:00h

Room P022, AUC New Cairo Campus (Entrance through Gate 4, Pepsi Gate)

On the occasion of the publication of the second edition of the MedWE Policy Series, titled *Climate Crisis and Gender Equality in the Euro-Mediterranean Region: Emerging Security Risks*.

This debate session is organized within the framework of the **MedWE (Mediterranean Women Empowerment) Programme**, a joint initiative of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed). The primary objective of MedWE is to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women in the Euro-Mediterranean region. To achieve this, the program organizes a series of joint activities, including seminars and conferences, bringing together researchers, policymakers, and civil society members. These gatherings foster dialogue and the exchange of knowledge and experiences to advance gender equality in the region. As part of this initiative, annual Policy Studies are published to disseminate research findings and provide recommendations aimed at policymakers, researchers, and civil society members working to empower women in the Mediterranean.

This session will bring together a select group of experts to explore the intersection of climate change, security, and gender. The discussion will focus on how climate risks exacerbate social, economic, and geopolitical vulnerabilities, with particular attention to the disproportionate effects on women and marginalized communities. The objective of this MedWe Dialogue is to present the main ideas from the analysis carried out by the five experts contributing to this publication. The session is designed to foster exchange among participants regarding projects and studies across the Euro-Mediterranean region, with the aim of enhancing resilience, promoting gender-responsive policies, and the role of international cooperation in mitigating these challenges. The discussion's outcomes will contribute to promote joint initiatives in the framework of this programme.

The event is hosted by the American University in Cairo (AUC), in collaboration with the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the Onsi Sawiris School of Business.

* *The event will be held in a hybrid format*

Connection details:

Zoom link: <https://aucegypt.zoom.us/j/94423773745>

AGENDA OF THE SESSION

15:00 – 15:15h

Welcome and Introduction

Overview of the session's objectives and the importance of integrating gender equality into climate action in the Euro-Mediterranean region, highlighting the role of regional and international institutions in addressing the intersection of climate change and gender.

Hala Barakat, Director, AUC Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Anna Dorangrichia, Programme Manager of Gender equality, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)

Gemma Aubarell, Culture, Gender and Civil Society Department Director, European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)

15:15 – 15:45h

Climate crisis and gender equality in the Euro-Mediterranean region

The discussion will explore how climate change disproportionately impacts women, exacerbating economic inequalities and limiting access to essential resources such as water, land, and financial support. Speakers will also examine the broader security risks emerging from climate change, including displacement and resource conflicts, while showcasing examples of gender-transformative policies and initiatives that empower women as key actors in climate adaptation and resilience.

Interventions:

Noura Abdelwahab, Lead International Gender and Innovations Expert
IWMI- Consultant

Zeina Moneer, Senior Environmental and Climate Policy Analyst and Senior Lecturer of Environmental Politics

Moderator: Khaled Bahader, Program Manager, AUC Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

15:45 – 16:45h

Debate among the experts

Experts will assess the effectiveness of national and regional frameworks, highlight the leadership role of women in climate adaptation and entrepreneurship, and discuss structural barriers such as the challenges women face in accessing climate finance. The debate will also emphasize the need for gender-disaggregated data and the importance of strengthening international cooperation and cross-sectoral networks to ensure more inclusive and effective climate policies.

Facilitator:

Gemma Aubarell, IEMed

16:45 – 17:00h

Conclusions and next steps

Main takeaways and outline of actionable recommendations for policymakers, researchers, and civil society actors

Anna Dorangrichia, UfM

CONFIRMED EXPERTS:

Anwar, Zienab, ILO Monitoring and Evaluation National Officer

Baaklini, Suzanne, Journalist, L'Orient le Jour

De Martinis, Domenico, Scientific Attache, Italian Embassy in Cairo

EI-Fiky, Sarah, Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, The American University in Cairo (AUC)

EI-Kashef, Hana, Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, The American University in Cairo (AUC)

Fouad, Manar, Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, The American University in Cairo (AUC)

Gobrail, Jina, Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, The American University in Cairo (AUC)

Hammad, Marwa, Head of the Global Gender Strategy, Women in Tech

Hatem, Salma, Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, The American University in Cairo (AUC)

Hoda El Maghrabi, Mariam, Research Analyst, World Bank

Jaskolski, Martina, Manager, MENA Hub Climate Peace and Security/Alliance Bioversity-CIAT

Karajerjian, Sarine, Program Director, Environmental Politics, Arab Reform Initiative (ARI)

Kassem, Maye, Associate Professor, Political Science Department, American University in Cairo (AUC)

Khaled, Muhammad, Center for Applied Research on Environment & Sustainability, The American University in Cairo (AUC)

Madkour, Khaled, Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, The American University in Cairo (AUC)

Mahmoud, Nihad, Center for Applied Research on Environment & Sustainability

Mareek, Eman, American University in Cairo (AUC)

Mecky, Mariam, Independent researcher

Rabie, Sara, Climate, Peace, and Security Specialist, CGIAR

Schapendonk, Frans, Climate, Peace, and Security Specialist, CGIAR

Shalash, Merna, President, Partners For Transparency / Head of the Egyptian Network of the Anna Lindh Foundation